

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

OF THE

## Westbury and Whorwellsdown Rural Sanitary Authority,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1897.

Area of District ... ..	30,843 acres.
Population in 1891 ... ..	10,166
Population Estimated to 1896 ... ..	10,416

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report of the Health and Sanitary Condition of the several Districts in the Westbury and Whorwellsdown Union.

The Births registered during the year, are :

WESTBURY	78 Males,	96 Females,	...	...	169
BRADLEY	48 „	31 „	...	...	79
TOTAL					248

The Deaths registered during the year are :

WESTBURY	50 Males,	56 Females,	...	...	106
BRADLEY	30 „	18 „	...	...	48
TOTAL					154

The Birth Rate per 1,000 is 25.5

The Death Rate per 1,000 is 14.7

Infant Mortality has been great during the year, over one third of the deaths being under the age of two years. Bronchitis and Pneumonia have accounted for some of these deaths, but by far the greater number have died within a few hours of birth from feeble respiration and premature birth.

Five cases of Diphtheria were reported to me from Baldham Mill, Keevil. I at once visited the place, and found the cases were of a mild type, and they were then convalescent. Two of the cases occurred in a new house where the drainage and water were both good. The other three were at the Mill, the house was very clean, in good condition, and the surface drains good. The Water for drinking being supplied from the neighbouring Farm.

Scarlet Fever has occurred in isolated cases at Steeple Ashton and Southwick. They were all of a mild character, in fact several cases had neither rash or after desquamation. I visited all the houses infected, and advised as to their disinfection.

Measles have been very prevalent in all the districts. Eighteen cases only have been notified to me from one district, the Medical Men of the other districts having omitted notifying Measles. Two deaths have occurred from the after effects of Pneumonia.

Twenty cases of Erysipelas have been reported to me, all of a mild character. No other cases of either Fever or Diarrhoea have been reported, or anything that might be attributable to any unsanitary condition.

Mr. Stanley (the Sanitary Inspector), and myself have gone over the whole districts together, besides my frequent visits at times during the year. We have inspected the Drains especially at Keevil, Bradley, and Southwick, where the ground is so very level. We have visited some cases of overcrowding, and condemned three houses at Edington as unfit for habitation, and one at Tinhead.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**WALTER H. REED,**

Medical Officer of Health.



# ANNUAL REPORT, 1897.

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To the Westbury & Whorwellsdown Rural District Council.

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GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report as Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for the year ending December 31st, 1897.

There has been very little new work carried out during the year.

A New Drain has been laid at Bulkington. A New Footpath has been constructed to the Westbury Leigh Schools. Notice Plates as to heavy traffic have been fixed to all the District Road Bridges, and a portion of the Water Course below the Lamb Inn, at Tinhead, has been piped in. Plans have been prepared for a New Sewer at Southwick, to be carried out shortly.

During the year 51 notices to Cut Hedges and Scour the Ditches by the side of the Highways have been served, and my requirements have been generally carried out.

The Medical Officer of Health and myself have made the usual Sanitary Inspections of the District, and Nuisances found to exist have been dealt with.

The Schools, Factories, and Slaughter-houses have been inspected. I have also inspected the Dairies and Cowsheds at 48 premises, paying attention to the Water Supply and general cleanliness of the premises, generally the Dairies and Milk Utensils are kept clean, but in most cases the Cowsheds require limewhitening, and in some cases the Floors repairing, these matters have received my attention.

The Local Government Board have still under consideration the Scheme prepared for the Water Supply of Westbury and Dilton Marsh, and I am expecting their report daily.

The number of Sanitary Notices served during the year is 76, affecting over 100 premises, the Nuisances complained of have, with a few exceptions, been abated, the others are now being dealt with by me.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**W. H. STANLEY, A.M.I.C.E.**

*January, 1898.*









(B) Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1897, in the Westbury Abhorwellsdown Rural District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.			Registered Births. (d)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e)	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.													NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES IN THE SEVERAL LOCALITIES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITAL.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	Last Census. (b)	Estimated to middle of 1897. (c)				Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina. 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Croup. 4	FEVERS.						Typhus. 5	Enteric or Typhoid. 6	Cond. 7	Rip-sing. 8	Puerperal 9	Cholera. 10	Erysipelas. 11	Measles. 12	13	Smallpox. 1	Scarlatina. 2	Diphtheria. 3	Membranous Croup. 4	Typhus. 5	Enteric or Typhoid. 6	Cond. 7	Rip-sing. 8	Puerperal 9	Cholera. 10	Erysipelas. 11	12																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District. "Yes." Since when? "1890." Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated.....

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.					
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Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	30,843.
Population (Last Census)	...	...	...	...	10,166.
„	(Estimated to middle of 1897)				10,510.
Death Rates.	{		General	...	14.7
			{ per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1897.		
Death Rates.	{		Infant (under one year of age)	18.5	{ per 1,000 Births Registered.
			{ per 1,000 Births Registered.		

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

WALTER H. REED, *Medical Officer of Health.*

*January 28th, 1898.*